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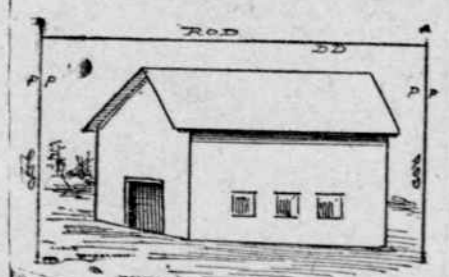
SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1904



LITTLE TALK ON SCIENCE.

Good Lightning Conductors May Be Obtained Without Spending Much Money.

1. Good connection of a lightning rod to ground is a prime necessity in lightning rod construction.
2. The experimental and theoretical study of the transmission of rapid electrical oscillations, and of abrupt electrical pulses along wires or rods has led to the recognition of the following facts: (a) Straightness and directness of path to earth is the most important condition in so far as the arrangement of the rod is concerned. (b) A given weight of metal is a more effective carrier of rapid electrical oscillations and of abrupt electrical



RODS OFF THE HOUSE.

cal pulses when it is in the form of ribbon, thin-walled tube, or cable than when it is in the form of a solid rod.
3. If the path along the rod to ground is roundabout, then the more direct through the protected (?) structure is apt to be chosen by the electrical discharge notwithstanding the poor electrical conductivity of this direct path, and in spite of any ordinary degree of insulation of the rod.
4. The arrangement shown in the accompanying sketch affords very direct communication to earth from the regions pp pp, which regions therefore are to be considered as well protected.

On the other hand the ground communication from the region dd is unnecessarily roundabout and this region dd is therefore unnecessarily exposed to danger. Given a good ground connection, then directness of path to ground from the region which is to be protected is so important that the matter of insulating the rod from the building either by air spaces or by glass is of no importance whatever in comparison. If the path is direct there is no need of insulation and if the path is roundabout effective insulation is not practically feasible.—W. S. Franklin, in Rural New Yorker.

Soil for Growing Apples.
A good fertile soil, porous, loamy, with plenty of humus, potash and lime, so as to give fair to good crops of grain or grass, is the most to be desired, while the nearest approach to these requirements would be my next choice—a soil that dries out quickly, so that it can be plowed soon after a rain, one that works easily, so as to get the best results with the least labor; a soil that will give a good crop of corn while we are growing the trees; a soil that will not bake too easily, is the one that is always desirable. Now comes a rocky or gravelly soil, which is nearly always good, the only drawback being that it takes more work to get results. These soils are found in abundance in all our mountain districts, and nearly always they are good fruit soils.—L. A. Goodman, in Farmers' Review.

Provide for Good Drainage.

The past two seasons have been wet ones. A large amount of snow fell the past winter. This spring the ground will be thoroughly soaked. What the summer weather will be of course a guess, but it is safe to provide for thorough drainage, as this work will result in better crops in either a wet or a dry season. If wet, the best of tilting and surface drainage will be necessary. Plans should be made early. The idea that thorough drainage is unnecessary has been pretty effectually dissipated. If the season is very dry, the land will stand the drouth better for having been well drained. For best results any season, plan to drain your farm as thoroughly as possible.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Study in Wheat Culture.

Mr. A. D. Hall, of England, who has experimented extensively in wheat culture, has come to the conclusion that a great deal depends upon the time of cutting. When green wheat begins to swell the first thing that comes into it is albumen, and the last parting is almost pure starch. If, therefore, it is possible to shorten the ripening period and prevent the starch element from entering the grain, the grain must of necessity be much stronger. Mr. Hall is inclined to the opinion that farmers would do well to cut wheat while it is yet in a green state, as by so doing they will get the grain richer in nitrogenous elements and richer in gluten—a stronger wheat in fact.

Plenty of Work Promised.

No man in the United States needs to be without work during the coming summer if he is able bodied and willing to labor. The harvest fields of Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Oklahoma and South Dakota will need at

least 45,000 hands. The Western Association of Free Employment bureaus gives out this information. The seven states covered have a grain area of 37,097,722 acres, and a total grain production of 632,988,444 bushels.

WHAT FARMERS NEED MOST

Sensible, Practical Education, to Be Continued Through Life by Constant Study.

The farmer's greatest need is education. He should have as good education as our public schools can give as a foundation for the special knowledge of the different branches of farming which he pursues. The farmer needs to read and study more than he does. It is not uncommon to hear farmers so discuss matters pertaining to their husbandry that it is clearly evident that they are uninformed about things which they should understand in order to get the best returns for money and labor expended.

In the United States there is no excuse for farmers to be without considerable knowledge of farming in its different branches. Our federal government does a great amount of investigation, the result of which is given gratis to every one. The different states have agricultural colleges and experiment stations, where investigations and experiments are constantly carried on, and in different ways do those institutions seek to interest the farmers in their work that they may learn the truths which science has revealed. The farmer must be able to see which crops will, as a rule, be most beneficial for him to raise. He must understand what different crops require in order to yield the most, and he should know how to so work his land that it gradually will come to be in the best condition, and he needs to understand how to maintain it so. The farmer also needs to know how to feed and care for his animals; how the value of the different feeds and the effects on the different stages of their lives, so as to get the best returns for what he expends. Knowing these things, it will not be difficult to produce in abundance. There need not be such a thing as an abandoned farm because it is exhausted.

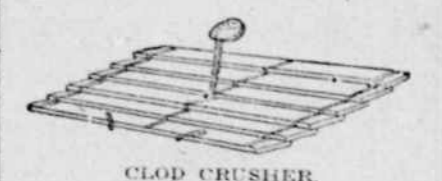
The farmer also needs to know how to market his produce. Having acquired the knowledge and worked diligently and produced in abundance, the farmer still stands hopeless; he cannot market his produce at any time, when the markets happen to be the best the roads are often impassable. One of the greatest needs of the farmer is good roads. The loss to the nation from having bad roads is incalculable. Good roads benefit every class of people, directly or indirectly. We are wealthy enough to build good roads; the farmer alone should not build them.

With better knowledge of farming and good roads we would have a far better country than we have. Our pecuniary circumstances would be greatly improved. There would be greater stability and more contentment among the farmers, less congestion in the cities and higher intellects; this would very materially help to guide the nation safely through political campaigns. Only the uninformed can be misled. Let us acquire knowledge and work faithfully. With good roads, productive soil and abundant resources we can prosper as no other nation on earth.—N. C. Jorgensen, in N. Y. Tribune-Farmer.

EXCELLENT CLOD CRUSHER.

The One Here Described Is Much More Effective Than the Type Now in General Use.

In many sections the preparing of ground for planting is a difficult problem. If a clod crusher is used it will not have it with a flat crushing surface. The one in the illustration, with several



CLOD CRUSHER.

eral crushing edges, is much more effective. It is made of two inch hard lumber eight inches wide, and about even feet long. The boards are held in place by three strips of iron one half inch thick and three inches wide, bent into notches two inches deep and six inches long, except the last one behind, which is to be eight inches long. Any blacksmith can do this work. The boards are bolted fast to the iron strips with the heads underneath. As the boards are wider than the notches, they will overlap two inches. Two pieces of iron with rings in the end are bolted to the front board three or four feet apart, for the purpose of hitching with a chain. Comfort may be added by attaching a seat from some old machinery.—A. Franklin Shull, in Orange Judd Farmer.

How to Handle Barb Wire.

Wire fence is the fence of the present day, and likely to be for some years to come. A farmer often wishes to move a string of barb wire fence to some other place. To do so is a job that tries the patience and cuts the hands. Let me tell you how to handle it and have no more trouble. Take the spool on which the wire was originally rolled, run a good, strong, smooth stick through it and drive a wedge in firmly at one end to keep the spool from turning on stick; now fix a crank firmly to one end of your stick and fasten one end of wire to the spool. Two men take hold of the stick, the right-hand man holding the stick with his left hand, and turning the crank with his right hand. Walk right along and you will be surprised how easily and rapidly you can take up wire. A little different form of spool and a crank on each end will take up woven wire the same as barb.—Farm Journal.

Many otherwise good poultry folks fail to recognize the value of plenty of pure water for fowls.

Did His Worst.

"Now do your worst," the hero cried. "Unto the villain hold, and then they sighed. "He did as he was told!"—Washington Star.

Not Breakable.

Clarence Willyboy—I have come to consult you in regard to breaking my uncle's will.
Bill Conkey (lawyer)—How much did he leave?
Clarence Willyboy—Five thousand dollars.
Bill Conkey—Break a five-thousand-dollar will? Why, say, young fellow! five thousand dollars wouldn't last long enough to make a dent in it.—Judge.

Disparagement.

"Mrs. Bliggins says she never gossips."
"No," answered Miss Cayene. "She hasn't enterprise enough to get any news of her own. She is merely an audience."—Washington Star.

Rather Hard on Him.

He—Do you believe, Miss Sweetlips, that we men descended from apes?
She—I think perhaps some of you did, but a great number don't seem to have moved at all.—Ally Siegel.

The Modern Answer.

She—If I should die, would you soon forget me?
He—What a foolish question! Have I not taken the full course of the "Memory" taught-by-correspondence school?—Puck.

Proud of Baby.

Mother Snail—I feel very proud, papa.
Father Snail—Why, my dear?
"Oh, baby wiggled across the floor for the first time to-day!"—Yonkers Statesman.

A Natural Understanding.

"He was mixed up in politics."
"Yes?"
"Yes; but he's out now."
"Indeed? Did he escape, or was he pardoned?"—Catholic Standard and Times.

The Same Thing.

Dashaway—You don't mean to say that Clicker called you an ass?
Cleventon—Well, it amounted to the same thing. He said you and I were tarred with the same stick.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Two Methods.

First Office Boy—So yer thrown up yer job, did yer? Before or after?
Second Office Boy—Before or after what?
First Office Boy—Getting fired.—Puck.

Tiny Farms.

In the province of Samara, Russia, 405,000 persons get their subsistence from less than three acres of land per capita.

Big Forest Reserve.

The government has already taken one-fourth of all the land in Oregon and turned it into a forest reservation.

Rank.

An inordinate fondness for titles may be correctly characterized as rank foolishness.—N. O. Times-Democrat.

Agree with Him.

Any man will have a good opinion of you if you will always agree with him.—Chicago Daily News.

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Madame is the only one in the world who can tell you the full name of your future husband with age and date of marriage, and tells whether the one you love is true or false. There are some persons who believe that there is no truth to be gained from consulting a Medium, but such beliefs are contrary to the truth. It is only from the lack of discrimination that such a conclusion can be reached. It is not every one who places himself or herself as a medium that can stand the test of what he or she claims. And a person of an inquiring mind may ask the reason why. It is simply that these advertisers do not take the trouble to study human nature. They do not spend their thoughts for a moment with acquiring the art of clairvoyance and kindred branches that will have a tendency to make the pathway to the road of the business clear and devoid of all obstacles. It is an undeniable fact that persons will come for advice in full knowledge of what they want to know, and yet as soon as they confront a medium they try their utmost endeavor to disprove their own conclusions, and they know so as to hear if it will be released by the Medium. To get the secret out of a person by unfair means is not clairvoyance, but a contrived and unprincipled Medium, but to take hold of the hand and gain control of the mind thereby is a matter of impossibility to most of them. And yet this can be done and by consulting Mrs. Marth the seemingly mystery becomes a realization. This subject has received no little attention by eminent men and even college professors. So it proves conclusively that all women there are intruders in our midst with oily tongues, and such a conclusion can be reached. It has been closed to the entire profession. It takes a great deal of study to become an accomplished medium and by a contrived and unprincipled effort, the key to the world of apparently unapproachable mysteries has been secured by MRS. MARTH for the benefit of humanity.

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